



**WAY OF THE LORD**

*Church*

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**FOR 2025/2026**



*Way of the Cross Congregation in March 1961 - "The Beginning"*

## **WAY OF THE LORD MINISTRY REPORTS**

### **Adult Education and Mental Health Ministries**

As ACTS winds down as an institutional program, Way of the Lord continues to pursue adult education in the areas of Bible, doctrine, Church history, and related subject areas. In addition, discussion continues regarding the development of mental health ministry at Way of the Lord, designated several years back to ACTS oversight. Having completed a 13-week course on "DEconstruction and REconstruction of our Faith" this previous winter and spring, the next project planned will focus on Pastoral Care of Those Battling Spiritual Delusion. Please let me (Lance) know if you have interest or expertise in this topic-area.

Lance Wonders

### **B.L.E.S.S. Outreach and Evangelism**

In the past year, we have taken incremental steps to move the BLESS model of evangelism from a method to a lifestyle within our congregation. Through prayer and application, this simple but powerful game plan has become a natural way to share the Gospel, especially for those who may struggle with that assignment — Begin with prayer, Listen with care, Eat together, Serve in love, and Share the story.

Even during a season of leadership transition and recalibration, we've seen meaningful fruit. Home group studies and personal applications, as well as Way of the Lord sponsored events, such as Holy Spirit Night and the Garage Sale Outreach, have proved to be fertile ground for discipleship and spiritual growth, through intentional relationship development. Most importantly, this past year has shown us that salvation and discipleship are not only occurring,

but they are also multiplying by way of exponential fruit. The approaches we have been using are manageable, consistent, and attainable, which gives great hope as we look forward. Moving into this new year of ministry, our goal is to continue to embed the BLESS lifestyle more deeply into the Way of the Lord church community. We plan to continue integrating it into both the pulpit ministry, as well as home groups, while giving space for testimonies and practical applications within our own spheres of influence. The desire is to see every church partner empowered and equipped to BLESS others at every loving opportunity of fellowship.

Colin

### **Children's Ministry**

Children's ministry had a great year! Keep the babies coming! Our volunteers continue to serve our children each with grace and love, imparting God's heart and teaching His ways. So many parents, grandparents and singles serve tirelessly to make this ministry great. This year, along with the church body, we have been going through the Bible, loosely following the weekly stories and topics Lance put together. We purchased a new curriculum from Crossway called, The Biggest Story. It offers beautifully illustrated images of the Bible stories, engaging videos and great resources for our teachers to lead the kids. Pray for God's presence and truth to be present during our times together and wisdom on how to lead the kids in their relationship with Jesus.

Kyle Salley

### **Deacons**

#### The Deacon team members:

Audrey Halverson, Kyle Salley, Doug Weikert, Barbara Star, Niki Inoue, Matt Massoglia, Steve Ackermann and the Elder liaison, Hans Martens

#### Personnel changes:

Last year, due to the retirement of Doug Weikert, as Facility Maintenance and the resignation of Abbie Stokes, as Custodian, we posted job openings for these positions. After an interview process, we hired Kyle Salley for the Maintenance position and Damaris Buuck for the Custodian position.

Dan and Geri Buck retired from the Deacon team after many years of faithful service. Many thanks to them for their service and best wishes as they spend more time with family, especially the grandchildren!

Matt Massoglia has recently joined the Deacon team. Welcome Matt!

#### Projects completed:

Our major accomplishment last year was new siding for the Genesis and Garage buildings, along with having both buildings professionally painted.

We also had a successful fall cleanup event. The Deacons extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who volunteers to help with our cleanup events. We have a large, beautiful campus that needs many volunteers to keep it looking good.

### Opportunity:

If there are any lovers of flower gardens out there, we have a need for someone to adopt the gardens in front of the Sanctuary building. Please call the office for more information

### Coming projects:

We will be updating our software and hardware for the security and fire systems. This will allow us to connect to the new Gateway fiber optic network. We will have improved monitoring and lower cost.

We will also be adding 4 cameras to improve the security coverage of the Food shelf building and the playground area.

NCS and WOTL joined together to purchase some used playground equipment. Sam Mayes is coordinating the installation. If he needs some help, he may set up a work day.

For the Deacons,  
Steve Ackermann

### **Food Shelf**

The food shelf has been an extremely busy outreach this year! The Food Shelf Board consists of Geri Buck, Geniene Haack, Audrey Halverson, Gina SanBuenaventura, Barb Starr, and Cindy Stokes. We, along with many volunteers serve approximately 350 families per month which translates into 1750-2100 people per month. We received more than 260 tons of food to distribute this last year. There are 40 volunteers who faithfully prep food and serve our shoppers, not only in services, but also in prayer and encouragement.

We work with Diaper Bank of Minnesota to procure diapers for our customers' babies, SHIP-Anoka County to help with health initiatives for our outreach, Second Harvest for our food needs. We supply NCS with snacks and food when needed, and we served 195 families during the May garage sale. The food shelf helps provide foods for the Nebraska ranch experience, the women's fellowship gatherings, the Elders'/Men's retreat, the coffee corner, and various other gatherings that have snack needs. Our volunteers also help with upkeep of shopping carts, pallets, putting up signs, organizing a shelving unit with books, puzzles, games, and creativity crafts to encourage English language learning and family togetherness times.

We constantly have needs for plastic shopping bags and paper bags and our church community has responded generously. We always appreciate and have an ongoing need for wholesome children's, adult, and family books, games, and puzzles. We can use mittens, hats, and gloves in the fall months and school supplies in July and August. And we need lots and lots of prayers to keep our focus on the Lord from whom all good and loving gifts come.

The food shelf is not only about food but it is about a vibrant Godly body of volunteers who create a community atmosphere to invite our clientele into. The laughter, jokes, smiles, prayers, and hugs on distribution days emphasize the love the Lord has poured into this outreach.

## **Health Ministry**

Health Ministry - Focus is on "Intentional care of the spirit as it relates to health needs across the life span" relying on Holy Spirit empowerment.

1. Emergency Preparedness: Provides access to First Aid/CPR course to congregation and Northside staff. Maintains/Provides First Aid CPR AED supplies to NCS and WOTL.
2. Grief Support offered and provided. Since inception 10/2020, Journeying Through Grief literature offered and supplied to those who accept the offer. Other resources recommended as well.
3. Hospital and Home Visits
4. Prayer. Personal response given to prayer requests and also in corporate settings.
5. Mental Health promotion via community resources such as Door of Hope.
6. Facilitates Annual Grant from Fairview corporation, application, implementation of using funds and report.
7. Authors Policy Support around above areas where needed.

Health Ministry has hopes to host a Door of Hope Conference to facilitate education and access to healing from effects of Trauma. Our culture is sadly saturated with people affected by Trauma A and B. This would further equip us personally and corporately to minister appropriately to how Jesus wants to bring personal healing and to those who God wants to send to us.

HM has an interest in teaching on various topics such as End of Life Concerns (Hospice, Health Care Decision making) etc.

Chris Resch RN FCN – Lead  
Shauna Massoglia RN FCN  
Jen Molitor, Correspondence Assistant  
Craig Warzaha Door of Hope Men's Support Group Leader

## **Life Groups / Other Groups**

There are currently 12 active Life Groups including various discipleship and accountability groups. The groups provide an opportunity for members of the church to build stronger relationships, share their faith, and support one another in a more intimate setting.

Group leaders currently meet with the WOTL Church Leadership Council 3 to 4 times during the year to be kept informed of church priorities, directions, and decisions. There is an opportunity for group leaders to discuss "what is working well" and "what can use improvement" in the group and if there are any needs that could use additional support.

## Current Groups:

1. Givand (all ages - prayer, fellowship)
2. Ackermann (older adults - prayer, bible study)
3. Anderson (all ages - fellowship, accountability)
4. Buuck (all ages - prayer, fellowship)
5. Scheil (all ages - prayer, fellowship, bible study)
6. Stokes & Samuels (adults)
7. Massoglia (Young families - fellowship, accountability)
8. Weber (adults)
9. Wonders (adult men - fellowship, accountability)
10. K. Alberts (young single women - discipleship)
11. Young Adults Group (prayer, fellowship)
12. J. Zupke (young single men - accountability, the Word and prayer)

## **Missions Support**

Way of the Lord designated \$3,500 for missionaries. The following are supported by Way of the Lord:

Akehurst - Financial/Prayer Support  
Anderson - Financial/Prayer Support  
Atwood - Prayer Support  
Casa de Mana - Financial/Prayer Support  
Conrad - Prayer Support  
Dimalanta - Financial/Prayer Support  
Farfan - Financial/Prayer Support  
Gilmore - Financial/Prayer Support  
Hale - Prayer Support  
Herlina - Prayer Support  
Karuku - Financial/Prayer Support  
Malespin - Financial/Prayer Support  
Markuson - Financial/Prayer Support  
Owodunni - Financial/Prayer Support  
Stontz - Financial/Prayer Support  
Williams - Financial/Prayer Support  
Ziemer - Financial/Prayer Support  
All Nations - Financial/Prayer Support  
Bethel (Tal & Tiege) - Financial/Prayer Support  
World Trumpet - Financial/Prayer Support

## **Northside Christian School**

Northside Christian School continues to see the leading, sustaining, and blessing of the Holy Spirit! This past year was very special. The overall atmosphere of the school was extremely positive and especially among the students. During chapel times and even school programs, students regularly led us in worship, prayer, 1 Cor. 14:26, and testimonies; the presence of the Lord was frequently very tangible. Another highlight was the trips to Camp Forest Springs and the big road trip to South Carolina. In addition, we started discipleship groups for the 6th - 8th grade students and these proved to be very successful in fostering deeper relationships and sharing of real life with one another.

We saw God's favor and grace in our staff as well on many levels. Firstly, this past year was very challenging for many of our staff in their personal lives with things like divorce, death, personal health, and various family problems. The love and support that was given and received from and to one another was truly a testimony to Jesus! Secondly, we were very sad to see three of our core elementary teachers retire (Vee, Mary, and Christy). However, the honor that the Northside family and especially the students gave them was beautiful to behold! God further confirmed their decisions by providing three amazing new teachers to replace them already! Their stories of provision and guidance are also amazing testimonies!

We continue to move forward with updates to classrooms, playground, marketing, and gym development. We were about \$20K in the red for 24-25 school year and are projecting similar numbers for next year. Ideally, we would always have over 100 students so our numbers being in the mid-80s is not sustainable long term. Please join us in praying for God's best for Northside. His exact families, students, and staff. His exact numbers. His exact facilities. His perfect plan!

Sam and Marjean on behalf of the Northside board and Administration

### **Worship Ministry Report**

Over the decades, Way of the Lord has carried a unique and sacred call—to minister to the Lord through worship as a Levitical, priestly people. This call has been refined through time, trial, and testimony, and continues to shape the culture of our house. We have dug a well of pure worship here, and by God's grace, it continues to flow freely. The culture of worship we've cultivated is rare and precious—a sanctuary where His presence is not only welcomed, but prioritized above all else.

This past year has brought both beautiful fruit and heartbreaking loss. We continue to grieve the death of our beloved Matt Wennerlund, who served for decades on the worship team—as a gifted vocalist, a humble servant, and an audio engineer with excellence, passion, and joy. Matt's absence is not a minor limp—it feels like we are learning to walk again with an amputated leg. Yet in our weakness, God continues to meet us. His grace carries us.

In the midst of the loss and ongoing transitions, we want to publicly honor Tammie Noriega and Renee Scheil, who have stepped in heroically in the sound booth. Their love, consistency, and servant hearts have been a lifeline. We are deeply thankful for them. We also honor Jason Brodin, Linnea Massoglia, and Jamie Mayes, who have faithfully carried the weight of worship leading in seasons when I have been unavailable due to the journey with our son Asher. Their sensitivity to the Spirit and their commitment to the body has been a true gift.

This past year we also made some practical changes—moving to digital sheet music with tablets to save on paper and streamline preparation. We've started regular worship practices on a new rotation: one Monday and one Thursday evening per month, with plans to continue this rhythm into the fall.

While we celebrate growth, we also acknowledge ongoing needs. We are actively looking for additional sound and media techs, as well as musicians. We remain committed to training, equipping, and releasing new voices. The goal of recording original songs—both spontaneous and written—is still alive in our hearts, and we believe God will breathe on it in due season.

Through it all, we press on—worshiping through joy, sorrow, celebration, and suffering. We believe that from this house, the “new song” will continue to rise.

May the fire on the altar never go out.

With gratitude and vision,  
Joey Stontz  
Worship Pastor

### **Youth Group**

The youth group continues to see life in various facets. We are blessed with amazing youth leaders who invest their time, talent, and heart every week. Brittany, Gavin, Talitha, and Jason have all shared their testimonies, mission trip experiences, and many other life lessons with the youth. We took this year to join the church in going through the Bible in a year. We spent some extra time on the story of Joseph and his brothers. We looked specifically at the differences of forgiveness, trust, and healing in the context of relationships. Youth group is smaller with about 15 youth on average. In the next couple years, we expect our numbers to increase significantly. Small group settings continue to be fruitful and provide opportunities for youth and leaders to share personally. We are taking a break over the summer but will have a couple parties that are open to the church as well (keep an eye out for details!!). Also, we are excited for the Way of the Lord family camp in August at Okontoe and seeing our youth in the context of family. One goal is to have more guest speakers so if you are interested in sharing with the youth, please let Sam Mayes know. Thank you so much for your prayers and support.

In Christ,  
The Way of the Lord Youth Leadership Team

### **Development Update**

We are currently in the process of meeting with the city and Kinghorn to get general approval for our proposed gym addition. We are beginning the unofficial phase of the fundraising campaign as soon as we get general approval from the city of Blaine hopefully within the next couple of weeks. Our plan is to go more official with the fundraising starting this fall. In addition to the gym, we are installing a new city park style playground this summer (volunteers appreciated)! We also have plans for updating some of our other outdoor spaces including parking lots and irrigation. Finally, we would like to make some capital improvements to our building including windows and flooring.

Please do be in prayer for this project as it represents a significant amount of work, time, effort, and money for our body. We believe that it is the Lord's plan for us to move forward so we are planning on fundraising for one year starting this fall. We are committed to not going into debt for this project so it truly will be "all hands-on deck" to accomplish it! BUT the benefits will be a blessing for many generations to come!

See pictures on the next page.





## Way of the Lord Budget 2025-2026

	12 Month Average of Actual	Monthly 2024/2025 Budget	Monthly 2025/2026 Budget
Net Income	36,743	<b>35,000</b>	<b>35,300</b>
Bldg. Usage	95	<b>200</b>	
Interest Income	1,007	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,100</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>37,845</b>	<b>36,200</b>	<b>36,400</b>
Missions	(3,500)	<b>(3,500)</b>	<b>(3,500)</b>
Apostolic Input	(700)	<b>(700)</b>	<b>(700)</b>
Ministry Designated-Youth	(200)	<b>(200)</b>	<b>(200)</b>
Ministry Designated-Children	(200)	<b>(200)</b>	<b>(200)</b>
Staff Salaries	(19,386)	<b>(19,000)</b>	<b>(19,300)</b>
Administrative	(2,827)	<b>(2,000)</b>	<b>(2,500)</b>
Capital Improvement	(2,000)	<b>(2,000)</b>	<b>(2,000)</b>
Loaves & Fishes	(1,100)	<b>(1,100)</b>	<b>(1,000)</b>
Utilities/Insurance/Tax	(6,478)	<b>(5,500)</b>	<b>(5,500)</b>
Repairs & Maintenance	(1,051)	<b>(2,000)</b>	<b>(1,500)</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>(37,442)</b>	<b>(36,200)</b>	<b>(36,400)</b>
<b>EXCESS REV(EXP)</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>